

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FOR AMBASSADOR VANDEN HEUVEL ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM
SUBJECT: SUBJECT: LETTERS FROM CHIEF OF THE SIX NATIONS

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER TO YOU FROM CHIEF OREN
LYONS OF THE IROQUOIS CONFEDERACY. ALSO INCLUDED IS THE
TEXT OF THE LETTER TO MR. RICHARD MOE, ASSISTANT
TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE.

QTE
MR. WILLIAM J. VANDEN HEUVEL
AMBASSADOR
UNITED STATES MISSION
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

BROTHER:

A. THE ONONDAGA NATION, AND THE SIX NATIONS THANKS YOU
FOR YOUR INVITATION TO YOUR RESIDENCE SEPTEMBER 23,
1977, OFFERING US AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ISSUES THAT
WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO BRING BEFORE THE PRESIDENT OF
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THE UNITED STATES.

B. I CAN ONLY EMPHASIZE THE PATIENCE EXERCISED BY OUR
PEOPLE CONCERNING THE MATTERS DEFINED IN THE ENCLOSED
LETTER TO MR. RICHARD MOE ALONG WITH THE SITUATIONS
WE DISCUSSED WITH YOU. IT IS OUR FEELING THAT MR. CARTER
IS NOT BEING APPRAISED OF THE REAL SITUATIONS AROUND THE

COUNTRY AND THE EXPLOSIVE POTENTIAL THAT EXISTS FOR VIOLENCE CAUSED PRIMARILY FROM POLITICALLY EXPEDIENT SOLUTIONS AT THE EXPENSE OF MORAL PRINCIPLES AND LEGAL OBLIGATIONS.

C. AGAIN OUR HOPES ARE RESTING ON A PROMISE, IN OUR FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL WE MUST SEEK HELP WHERE WE CAN. PERHAPS YOUR INTERVENTION WILL SHORTEN OUR LONG TRAIL OF TRIBULATIONS AND LEAD TO A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL OF US. ONEH, ONONDAGA COUNCIL OF CHIEF /S/ CHIEF OREN LYONS, TURTLE CLAN CHIEF - ONONDAGA NATION. UNQTE

QTE
MR. RICHARD MOE ESQUIRE
ASSISTANT TO THE VICE PRESIDENT
ROOM 270 OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

BROTHER:

A. IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP, THE ONONDAGA COUNCIL OF CHIEFS, ON BEHALF OF TRADITIONAL NATIVE AMERICANS REQUEST A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE TO PRESENT THE PERSPECTIVES AND POSITIONS OF TRADITIONAL NATIVE AMERICANS. WE ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PREPARED TO GIVE ASSESSMENTS OF PAST AND PRESENT INDIAN POLICIES OF THE U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND OFFER RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE INOVATIVE AND REALISTIC REGARDING FUTURE POLICY AND RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE INDIAN NATIONS.

B. WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT OUR TREATIES AND THE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE EXHIBITED BY THE PAST ADMINISTRATIONS TOWARD THE RECOGNITION AND IMPLIMENTATION (SIC) OF THESE TREATIES. THE NATIVE PEOPLE OF THIS CONTINENT REGARD THE PAST ACTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AS HYPOCRITICAL, UNETHICAL, ILLEGAL AND MORALLY UNBECOMING TO A NATION THAT ADVOCATES JUSTICE AND FREEDOM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

C. WE ARE IMPRESSED WITH THE STRONG MORALE TENOR OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S SPEECHES. WE HAVE NOTED HIS COMMITMENT (SIC) TO THE TREATIES, AND HIS CONCERN FOR THE INTEGRITY OF THE NATION. WE RESPOND WITH THE HOPE THAT IT WILL BE HIS ADMINISTRATION THAT WILL CORRECT THESE LONGSTANDING ABUSIVE POLICIES TOWARD OUR PEOPLE.

D. PRESIDENT CARTER AND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE MUST BE

INFORMED THAT: THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS DOES NOT SPEAK FOR NOR REFLECT THE PERSPECTIVE OF TRADITIONAL NATIVE AMERICANS; THAT THE NATIONAL TRIBAL CHAIRMENS ASSOCIATION MORE OFTEN REFLECTS BUREAU POLICY, AND THAT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICA INDIANS EVEN IN THE LIGHT OF IT'S CURRENTLY CHANGING ATTITUDE OF BECOMING MORE SUPPORTIVE OF TRADITIONAL VIEWS AND TREATIES, STILL CANNOT PRESENT OUR PERSPECTIVES OR REPRESENT US.

E. WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED PARTIES IT BECOMES APPARENT THAT A LARGE AND MOST INFLUENTIAL SEGMENT OF NATIVE AMERICANS ARE NOT BEING REPRESENTED. IT IS THIS LACK OF REPRESENTATION AND INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH PAST ADMINISTRATIONS THAT HAVE MOTIVATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE UNREST AND ACTIONS ACROSS THE CONTINENT IN THE PAST DECADE.

F. WE NOW COME FORWARD AND OFFER OUR BEST MEN OF THE SIX NATIONS IROQUOIS CONFEDERACH, THE CHIEFS AND HEADMEN OF THE GREAT LAKOTA NATION, DESTINGUISHED (SIC) AND NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SPOKESMEN OF NATIVE PEOPLE, VINE DELORIA, JR., HANK ADAMS, DR. ALPHONSE ORTIZ, RUSSELL MEANS, RAMONA BENNETTE, VERNON BELLCOURT, WITH ASSISTANCE AND REPRESENTATION FROM THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION TO PRESENT THE BACKGROUND AND ORAL HISTORY NECESSARY FOR A RATIONAL UNDERSTANDING OF PAST EVENTS, THAT WILL PROVIDE A SOLID FOOTING FOR FUTURE POLICIES AND LONG STANDING RELATIONSHIPS ACCORDING TO BOTH OF OUR PEOPLES ORIGINAL COMMITMENTS (SIC). ONEH, THE ONONDAGA COUNCIL OF CHIEFS /S/ CHIEF IRVING POWLESS, JR., SECRETARY ONONDAGA NATION.

CC: CHIEFS OF THE SIX NATIONS, CHIEF FOOLS CROW, MATTHEW KING, LOUIS BAD WOUND, LARRY RED SHIRT, RUSSELL MEANS, VINE DELORIA, JR., DR. ALPHONSE ORTIZ, HANK ADAMS, RAMONA BENNETTE, JIM DURHAM , VERNON BELLCOURT, MR. OGDEN REID, THOMAS COLOSI, DR. JOSEPH R. STULBERG, HOWARD ROWLEY. SORENSON

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